

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A computer based system and method of providing document isolation during routing of a document through a workflow is disclosed. The method comprises maintaining  
5 a separate "working" copy of the original base document while the document is routed through a workflow. Access controls, which define who may access the original document as well as any versions of the working copy document, are defined and stored in relation to the  
10 documents. The access controls further define the types of actions users may take with respect to the document. Users are selectively directed to the appropriate document, either the base document or working copy, and selectively granted permission to perform publishing  
15 operations on the working copy document, as determined by the access controls.